

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 05698 190754Z
ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 OES-09 AGRE-00 /028 W
-----087345 200513Z /14

R 190655Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3840

UNCLAS CANBERRA 5698

PASS FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EIND, SWEL, TBIO, AS
SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL FOOD LABELING SURVEY

REF: STATE 178135

1. THIS IS INTERIM REPLY TO REFTEL. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS BEING PROVIDED BY AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WILL BE TRANSMITTED BY SEPTTEL.
2. FOOD LABELING LAWS IN AUSTRALIA ARE ADMINISTERED BY INDIVIDUAL STATE GOVERNMENTS. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTRODUCTION OF SUCH LAWS ARE MADE TO INDIVIDUAL STATE GOVERNMENTS BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL, A BODY CONSISTING OF FEDERAL AND STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS.
3. THERE ARE AT PRESENT NO LAWS REQUIRING CARBOHYDRATE LABELING. AS IS THE PRACTICE IN THE U.S., SOME MANUFACTURERS, NOTABLY OF BREAKFAST CEREALS, DO VOLUNTARILY LIST INGREDIENTS ON PACKAGES.
4. HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL INFORMED EMBASSY THAT NH&MRC HAS RECENTLY DRAWN UP A "MODEL FOOD CODE" WHICH IT HOPES WILL EVENTUALLY BE ADOPTED INTO ALL STATES' LEGISLATION. THE CODE COVERS SUCH ASPECTS AS INGREDIENT LABELLING. HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH A COPY OF MODEL FOOD CODE, WHICH

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WILL BE PASSED ON TO FDA.

5. ANSWERS TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS RAISED PARA 4 REFTEL ARE BEING PROVIDED BY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND WILL BE TRANSMITTED ASAP.
ALSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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